

West Des Moines Police Department Community Education/Outreach Unit 515-222-3333

- Windows can be a way for a burglar to enter a home
- The main interest in securing windows is to eliminate entry by prying open or breaking a small area of glass to reach a single latch

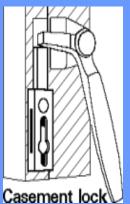


- Double hung windows
- -the most common type of window found in homes
- -Factory locks are easily jammed or pried open
- To secure double window
- -drill a 3/16" hole from inside sash through outside slash at a downward angle
- -insert a nail or pin into the hole

- Horizontal or sliding glass windows
  - Often fabricated from inexpensive or lightweight materials
  - Locks are similar in quality to the window
  - Sliding windows should be treated much like sliding glass doors

- Casement, Hopper or Awning windows
  - Locks on these windows may have levers or cranks
  - In most cases locks with these styles are reasonably secure
  - To improve the security of the windows, loosen the set screw in the crank handle and remove crank altogether





- Basement windows
  - The level of the window makes it difficult to secure and particularly vulnerable to intrusion
  - Bars or straps over the windows would improve the security
  - Better yet, replacing the glass with polycarbonate material gives them extra strength against blows

